

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/556,483

Examiner

Lewis A. Bullock, Jr.

Applicant(s)

IWAMURA ET AL.

Art Unit

2126

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to response filed 7/22/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1, 5, 6 and 10, now renumbered 1-4.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 April 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:-
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

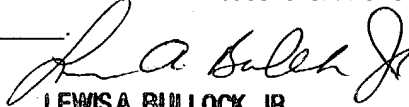
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1, 5, 6, and 10 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims are allowable for at least the following reason: All of the claims detail a communications device capable of instructing connected communication devices to execute an application. The claims are novel by performing the selection on the basis of acquired attribute information the communication devices capable of providing a designating service, i.e. capable of executing an application, wherein a user is capable of selecting one or more communication devices for executing an application from a display unit that displays only the detected devices that are capable of providing the designated service, and thereby sending instruction information for executing the application to the selected communication devices. The cited prior art of record, i.e. Humplemann at best teaches a user selecting a device from displayed devices connected to a communication device wherein a matching devices similar to the selected device are displayed while others are not displayed. The cited reference would not meet the limitations of selecting a service, and displaying and selecting those devices capable of providing that service because as detailed in the claims the service is the execution of an application. Therefore, one selects the execution of an application and based on the capabilities of all the devices connected to the communication devices, a display unit shows all the devices that are capable of executing the application such that one or more are selected and the application is executed on that selected device(s). Another cited prior art of record, Mano (U.S. Patent 5,793,366) teaches on a graphical user interface device

Art Unit: 2126

selecting a task to be executed and based on the task selected, certain device controls capable of performing the task are displayed on the device for user invocation. In addition, the graphical device displays indications of which device has been selected by showing the flow of data to the device. However, similar to the reason above, the cited reference does not teach the invention because the task is the execution of an application wherein, devices capable of executing the application are displayed in the displayed means while devices incapable of executing the application are grayed out. Another cited prior art not relied upon, Anand (U.S. Patent 6,141,705) teaches offloading application task to remote devices that are capable of providing the task. However, Anand does not teach displaying those devices capable of providing that application service based on the capabilities of the device. Therefore, the claims are allowable over the cited prior art of record.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

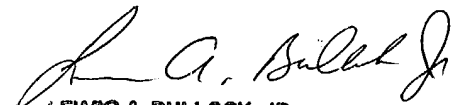
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lewis A. Bullock, Jr. whose telephone number is (703) 305-0439. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm. In late-October, the examiner can be reached on (571) 272-3759.

Art Unit: 2126

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng An can be reached on (703) 305-9678. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306. In late-October, the examiner supervisor can be reached on (571) 272-3756.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

September 30, 2004


LEWIS A. BULLOCK, JR.
PRIMARY EXAMINER